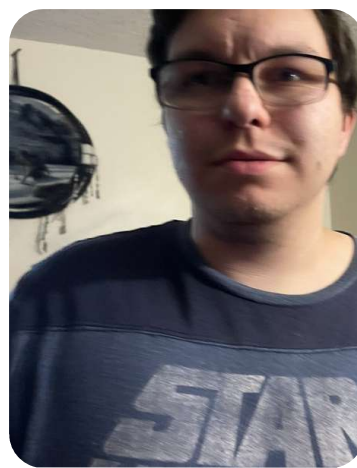


MEDICAID MATTERS to MISSOURIANS

Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council

Travis Bell, Kansas City, MO

I live with my dad and work. Medicaid allows me to obtain the medications, support services, and healthcare that I need. If Medicaid is cut, I would lose access to the essential medications and healthcare I require!



William Stark, Sedalia, MO

I live in my own home, and Medicaid pays for the behavioral therapy my son, who is disabled, needs. Due to my income, I no longer qualify for Medicaid for my disabled son, so he is not able to receive the help he needs. In other states, they offer Medicaid to a disabled child, regardless of the parents' income.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Curtis Herbold, Columbia, MO

I am a 36-year-old autistic individual with a guardian and payee, but I have my own bank accounts and live on my own in my own apartment, paying my own bills and working toward my own guardianship. My Medicaid primarily helps pay for food.



Joyce Fenner, Fordland, MO

My son is able to attend college at 16. Through Medicaid, we were able to receive years of OT, PT, and speech therapy, as well as numerous other programs that were arranged through an SB 40 support coordinator. If Medicaid is cut, we can't continue the path to success.



Kit Stahlberg, Fredericktown MO

I live in my own home and love it. My Medicaid helps me access the provider services I need. If Medicaid is cut, I would not be able to live a productive life.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Mallory Hansen, Nixa, MO

My son can attend school and make friends. He can join the community and be an active member of it. My son attends speech therapy and applied behavioral analysis therapy to help him learn how to form words and acquire techniques that promote his independence. If Medicaid is cut, my son will revert to making noises and screams instead of words. He will lose the routines that have helped him manage his environment so that he can function positively. He will no longer be able to progress toward independent living as he gets older. This will have a domino effect on all aspects of his family life. His (single) mother will not be able to hold a job, as his care would require almost full-time monitoring.



Amy King, Hillsboro, MO

My 26-year-old daughter was severely disabled in a car accident eight years ago. She lives at home with me. Haili is now 26 years old. She is supported by a Medicaid community support waiver that allows her to live with her family rather than in a nursing home. Haili requires around-the-clock care for all activities of daily living. If Medicaid were cut, I would not be able to care for her at home.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Jeremiah Crews, Imperial, MO

I live in an ISL home with one roommate. I attend a day program at the Judevine Center for Autism. I need a caregiver to make my appointments and transport me, help manage my finances, administer medications, monitor my eating habits, cook for me, assist with cleaning, and provide protective oversight within the community. If Medicaid is cut, I will not be able to go anywhere, take my medications correctly or safely, get to appointments, or go into the community, eat healthy, balanced meals, or grocery shop.



Diana Willard, Joplin, MO

I live in my own home, and Medicaid pays for staffing, medication, and medical equipment. If Medicaid is cut, I can't live in the community independently and be understood by my peers.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Shelly Shetley, Kansas City, MO

I live in the Kansas City community, in my own home. I volunteer and participate in community activities. I give back to the community by donating to a not-for-profit in the area. Medicaid enables me to live independently with the supports and services I need. I require a caregiver to assist me with getting in and out of bed, dressing for the day, and showering. I need assistance with all activities of daily living (ADLs). I also need a caregiver to transport me to community activities, pick up my medication, attend appointments, and go to the grocery store. I need help from a caregiver to cook and prepare meals. With the proposed Medicaid cuts, I would not be able to live at home in the community with the supports and services essential for my health and well-being. I would have fewer staff members and reduced hours. This would lead to more UTIs and more frequent visits to the emergency room at the nearest hospital or potential institutionalization. By living in the community, I am saving both the state and federal governments' money.



**Estimated Medicaid Enrollment
Loss 13% for Missourians.**

Source: KFF <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/state-level-context-for-federal-medicaid-cuts-of-625-billion-and-enrollment-declines-of-10-3-million/>

MEDICAID MATTERS

Andrew Burks, Columbia, MO

I live in my own home with my wife and newborn son, and I provide IT support for Woodhaven Learning Center in Columbia. We are using Medicaid to cover care for my son's first year of life. As it stands, I cannot afford to add my wife or son to my health insurance.

My employer is a non-profit primarily funded by Medicaid. We offer in-home care to more than 100 disabled individuals in the Columbia area. Medicaid cuts could impact our ability to operate, and therefore, my employment may suffer. I also would be unable to take my son to his appointments. We are a single-income family, as my wife is disabled by every definition except that of the State of Missouri, and even if she met that definition, I make too much money on paper for her to qualify for most benefits.



**Change in State Medicaid
Spending Per Resident
23% for Missourians.**

Source: KFF <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/state-level-context-for-federal-medicaid-cuts-of-625-billion-and-enrollment-declines-of-10-3-million/>

MEDICAID MATTERS

Danny Speck, St. Louis, MO

Dan lives with his natural family and volunteers in the community with the assistance of his support person (PCA). When his natural supports are unavailable, Dan requires a caregiver to remain safe and engaged in the community. To facilitate the provision of these supports, Dan receives a home and community-based waiver. If Medicaid is cut, Dan will most likely be housebound, as his aging parents are increasingly unable to offer him opportunities for a physically and emotionally active life. Furthermore, when his family cannot provide the necessary care in the absence of outside supports, Dan will be destined to live in an institutional setting without a Medicaid waiver ("Comprehensive" especially).



**Federal Funding accounts for
64% of Missouri's spending on
Medicaid.**

Source: https://mffh.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Impact-of-Potential-Federal-Medicaid-Changes-on-Missouri_Manatt_04.17.25.pdf

MEDICAID MATTERS

Emily Cannon, Waynesville, MO

I live in my family home with my family and receive self-directed support.

Thanks to Medicaid, I receive personal assistance to help me learn independent living skills so I can be independent and live a fulfilling life. If Medicaid is cut, it will dwindle the already limited resources and services available to families.

Rural areas are already struggling to obtain necessary supports, and the threat to cut Medicaid puts everyone in a state of anxiety and insecurity.



Katie Krier, Excelsior Springs, MO

I live with my spouse and four children. We utilize Medicaid for routine checkups as well as emergency care. We will not be able to afford healthcare on our own, which means we will have no access to regular or emergency care.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Jenise Woolf, St. Louis, MO

I live with my family and hope to secure a job. Medicaid provides access to support services, healthcare, and medications. Even those with health insurance struggle to afford many of the copays for the medications and support services I need, which many people require. If Medicaid funding is reduced, my family will not be able to support me at home. I face challenges and take a significant number of medications.



Mary Gensler, Raytown, MO

Medicaid, i.e. MOHealthnet helps pay for medicines. Without it, I could not afford to pay full price for medicines.

Halsey Velo, De Soto, MO

Medicaid covers my medication for anxiety so I can volunteer. I also had to have gallbladder surgery last year and Medicaid allowed me to have that. I will not be able to take my anxiety medication, which means I won't be able to volunteer or be hired.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Scott Malawey, O'Fallon, MO

I need transportation to and from work and to places in the community so I can shop for food, and places in the community. I need Personal Assistant services to help me with things I cannot do for myself. I need Support Broker services to help me find and hire new PAs. I need case management services from the DDRB to help identify and connect me to potential waiver services that will benefit me. I need support to keep my job. I need support with communication, cooking, hygiene, money handling, social skills, self-confidence, and safety, to name a few things.



If Medicaid is cut, I am at risk of needing ICF/IDD institutional services, and my life would be changed entirely. I would not feel the love of my family's presence every day if I had to live in an institution. If I continue living at home, I won't be able to afford all the supports that I need. I would become deeply depressed. I will not be able to retain my job, my parents will go out of their minds trying to do everything for me.

MEDICAID MATTERS

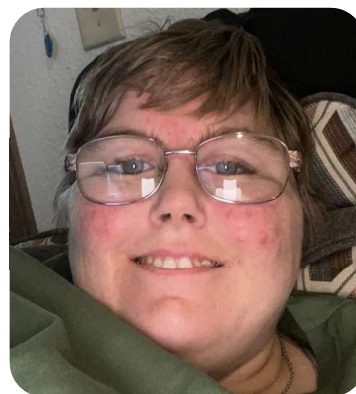
Troy Kelly, Belton, MO

I need a caregiver to take me to and from my doctor's appointments because I don't drive anymore. My caregiver also helps me with my medications as I have trouble remembering things. She additionally assists me with household chores such as bathing, cooking, laundry, and grooming. If Medicaid is cut, I won't be able to afford the doctors I need to see for my pain. I've had multiple back surgeries, both shoulders replaced, and I suffer from chronic pain. This change would also affect my living situation, as I am on disability and cannot work.



Nicole Martin, Grandview, MO

I live in a group home, I work at a sheltered workshop. I go to doctors appointments. I won't be able to get medication.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Steven Foelsch, St. Louis, MO

I have a significant mobility disability, and I use Medicaid's independent living waiver, which allows me to hire my personal attendants. They help me get up, get ready for work, and return to bed after work. This enables me to pay rent and taxes, live independently, contribute to my community, and avoid being confined in a nursing home. If my Medicaid is cut, I will lose my ability to work, pay rent, and contribute to my community. Consequently, I will be confined to a nursing home, living a life of quiet desperation and isolation.



Christine Freund, Hillsboro, MO

Medicaid pays medical bills, get my medicines and go to my disability services and support organization. Without it, we wouldn't have my United Healthcare Dual complete or have my support organization.



Approx. 90% Missouri adults with Medicaid are currently working, caregiving or have a qualified exemption.

Source: <https://mobudget.org/work-requirements-lose-health-coverage/>



MEDICAID MATTERS

Natasha Johnston, St. Louis, MO

My son (3) has a Medicaid Waiver, transforming our lives. We now have access to therapies, specialists, medications, and consistent supportive care for him that we couldn't find in any daycare or alternative placement setting due to his complex needs. Without the waiver, I would not be able to maintain a job, stay engaged in weekly therapies, access medical technology devices, or receive safe and supportive care.



David Gould, O'Fallon, MO

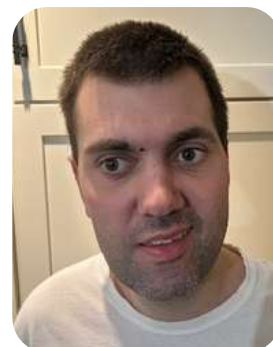
Medicaid allows me to live in a less restrictive placement, with more independence and inclusive environment and it is less expensive the alternatives. Medicaid also pays for my staffing needs. I have multiple disabilities and significant pharmaceutical and medical expenses. Medicaid keeps me healthy, mitigates most conditions from becoming worse and allows me to continue to work. Without it, I would have more restrictive and more expensive options. My health would be compromised and my ability to be a contributing, active member of my community. My well built circle of care would crumble and fall.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Brendan Woodruff, High Ridge, MO

I use Medicaid to assist with medical costs related to the care I receive following a prior liver transplant, cerebral palsy, seizure disorder, and other diagnoses connected with these disorders. I also attend a day program.



Without Medicaid, I will have much less access to activities and programs that help me learn and hone new skills, as well as interact with people in my community. Medicaid cuts will also severely affect the medical care I receive, as I will be unable to afford the costs of these services.

Courtney Hudson, House Springs, MO

Medicaid covers my 3 children with Autism and myself. Without it, while completing my education, I would not have health insurance coverage and be able to see a doctor when I need to and that can be critical for me at times due to my health. One of my children would not have the life-changing therapy needed to help her be able to navigate everyday life as an individual. None of my children would see a doctor or a dentist without it. My child in therapy would not be able to navigate the school setting or even home for that matter.



MEDICAID MATTERS

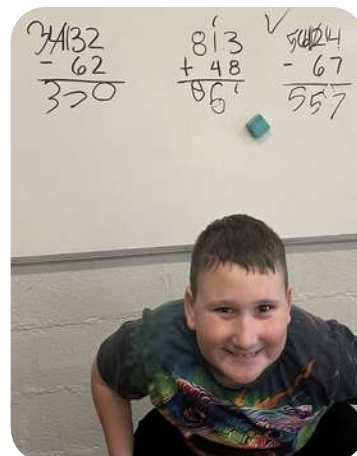
Jessica Baldwin, Columbia, MO

The individuals supported at Woodhaven rely entirely on Medicaid—not only for their medical needs but also for the services that allow them to live safe, meaningful lives in their own homes throughout our community. Without Medicaid, the people we support would face devastating alternatives: institutionalization, homelessness, or incarceration. Medicaid ensures they can receive the care they need—both medical and personal—while living in a place they can truly call home. Continued support for Medicaid is not just a policy decision—it's a lifeline. It's what keeps our most vulnerable neighbors safe, healthy, and human.



Melissa Dewald, Plattsburg, MO

My grandson is not able to attend a regular daycare and is able to have someone care for him while I am at work. It allows him the ability to get his medications, see doctors, and helps him with his therapies. If he was cut from Medicaid we would not be able to care for him and could put him at risk of being given to the state due to inability to care for him.

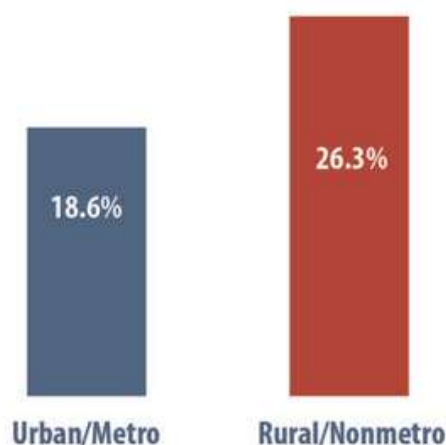


MEDICAID MATTERS

Amber Conn, Jackson, MO

Medicaid helps us pay for nursing care, allowing me some respite time. My daughter requires round-the-clock care because she cannot do anything on her own. Medicaid also assists us with payments for medications, medical equipment, and procedures not covered by my daughter's primary insurance, among other things. Cutting Medicaid would mean reducing our nursing hours. As a family, we are already stretched thin financially because I have to transport my daughter to all her therapies and appointments. With Medicaid, we can afford nursing care to support me in looking after her, which also enables me to return to school to obtain a nursing degree that could help alleviate my family's financial burden. Without it, we would struggle to afford the expensive medications my daughter needs, as well as all the equipment necessary for her survival.

Missourians in Rural Areas are More Likely to Be Covered by Medicaid
Proportion of Each Population Enrolled in Medicaid, November 2024



Source: MO Budget Project <https://mobudget.org/medicaid-work-requirements-would-penalize-rural-missouri/>

MEDICAID MATTERS

Johnna Murray, Arnold, MO

Medicaid makes it possible to provide for their daily living expenses. Since neither of them are able to work at a job that pays a living wage, Medicaid provides the ability for them to stay in our home. It provides a small amount for us to transport them to activities and pay for occasional outings that help enrich their lives. If Medicaid is cut I'm not sure we could afford medication that keeps my son manageable. We rely on the advice of caregivers who Medicare provides and they would not be available if Medicaid is cut. I'm not sure if both of my children who are now adults would be able to remain in our home without Medicaid. I can not imagine the problems of not having Medicaid and foresee numerous inhumanities to citizens who can not advocate for themselves.

Taylor Feucht, High Ridge, MO

Medicaid makes it possible for me to have a job coach at work, helps me pay for my medications I need helps me receive transportation from JC Transit when they are available and I need it. If Medicaid gets cut and I have to pay for all of these things on my own I would not be able to afford my condo.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Maiko Alexander, Iberia, MO

The Medicaid waiver program pays for my son to go to a day program that he absolutely loves. It gives him a good quality of life.

Fun with his peers and a reason to get out of bed every day. They go on trips, go out in the community, go fishing ... my son can be more independent and learn to have someone else help him with daily needs.

If Medicaid is cut and my son can no longer go to his day program, it would be beyond devastating. My son would have zero quality of life and no time with peers. We do not have any family. The only socialization my son gets is at his day program. My mother would probably also go insane, as that is the only help she ever gets.



**Estimated Total Cost of
Medicaid & SNAP Cuts
Approach 20% of State
General Revenue.**

Source: MO Budget Project <https://mobudget.org/federal-force-cuts-state-services/>

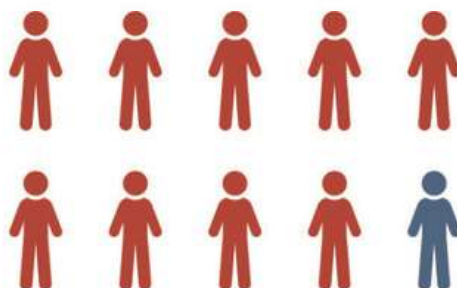
MEDICAID MATTERS

Patricia Modica, Arnold, MO

My daughter attends a day program. It provides her with structure and volunteer opportunities. My daughter also has a personal assistant to help her with self care, being safe in the community, household chores and taking medications. My daughter also has weekly therapists, Occupational, Physical and Speech. Any cut to any service would cause my daughter's quality of life to decline. We have seen the decline before when she was waiting for services to be approved. If cuts are made she won't be able to walk. Won't be able to speak clearly. Won't be able to write her name. She won't feel valued as a human being.



**About 9 in 10 Missouri Adults With Medicaid
Are Currently Working, Caregiving, Going to
School, or Have a Disability**



Source: MO Budget Project <https://mobudget.org/work-requirements-lose-health-coverage/>

MEDICAID MATTERS

Nicole Noblet, Kansas City, MO

Medicaid enables me to manage my multiple chronic illnesses and keep my pain under better control. I am able to go places with my family because I have a custom wheelchair. I am able to hire my mom to care for me, which allows me to get the services I need. Medicaid enables me to speak, with my tablet. I use Augmented and Alternative Communication or AAC to speak, which has enabled me to be a public speaker, and allows me to teach people with disabilities about their rights, and I help advocate for people with IDD. Medicaid gives me a quality of life.

If Medicaid gets cut, I lose my job. I will be in constant excruciating pain because I won't be able to afford any of my medication. My migraines will no longer be under control. I won't be able to eat because without my medicine I can't swallow my food, or keep the food down. Without Medicaid I won't be able to take my antidepressant which stabilizes my mood. I won't be able to get out of bed, because I will be in too much pain. Without Medicaid I would not have joy.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Suzanne Kirby, Imperial, MO

The Medicaid waiver pays for our son's PAs. He needs to be under constant supervision due to his uncontrolled seizures. Because he has PAs, he's able to volunteer at our local national park site, audit classes at our community college, and participate in Special Olympics horseback riding. If we don't have the waiver, one of us will have to quit working. We will also have issues with our health insurance, since we're able to get that through our employers now.



T Burns, Grain Valley, MO

Besides the things that my caregiver assists with, I also have to have tests annually to see if I've developed more aneurysms. If Medicaid is cut I will be left without the assistance I need from my caregiver and due to no Medicaid I will die most likely painfully from a burst aneurysm. I have 6 grandchildren. I am a person and I have people who love me and I love them. Please don't gut Medicaid and choose to end my life. I'm 55 years old. Without Medicaid I also cannot afford the medication I need to treat my conditions.



MEDICAID MATTERS

Lauren McClellan, Jackson, MO

I help my hospice patients get Medicaid for both long term care assistance and the home-based community services. The weight of caregiving burden will 100% fall on families of the terminally ill. They are already having to take off work in order to care for their loved ones. A large portion of hospice patients I see live alone with no family assistance. If it weren't for both hospice and their Medicaid worker, they'd be alone with nobody to check on them or manage meds. Those same people may not qualify for access to Medicaid when they need nursing home placement.

Laura Harris, Ozark, MO

Medicaid pays for her therapies and supports who work on living skills and support her at volunteering. She would not be able to volunteer or go out in the community without support. Medicaid also is her health insurance that pays for vital seizure medications. My daughter would not gain functional independent living skills or be able to go out in the community as much without The funding she receives from Medicaid. I believe negative behaviors would increase and our quality of life as a family would be severely impacted.

